



• INFO memo - July 9, 2004

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Happy 4th for Police, Fire Departments

Telling police and fire department personnel to “have a happy 4th of July” is usually a little overly optimistic. In Broken Arrow this past weekend, however, the holiday was just that: happy!

Police Chief Todd Wuestewald reports that there were only 186 calls complaining of neighborhood fireworks, and that only one arrest was made – that by a Fire Marshall. There were no fires reported that were related to fireworks. No complaints were received from the public about the fireworks shows at Rhema and other community churches.

Most importantly, Wuestewald said there were apparently no injuries or property damages resulting from fireworks.

The possession or use of fireworks in city limits is against the law in Broken Arrow, and police officers will drive through areas which have received complaints from residents.

Broken Arrowans Advance to Hershey Nationals

Two Broken Arrow youngsters who won their events in the Hershey Track & Field Qualifier at South Intermediate earlier this spring (April 3) have advanced to the Hershey Nationals in the Pennsylvania city made famous by chocolate.

Allison Dziadula won the Girls 9-10 year old division of the softball throw in the state meet at Norman June 26 and her showing was the best in the region. She's a student at McAuliffe Elementary and the daughter of Mark and Liza Dziadula.

Mitch Johnson, a student at Oliver Middle School, won the Boys 13-14 1600 Meter Run in Norman and also had the best time in the region. His father is Mike Johnson.

Their performances qualified them for a trip to Hershey. Accompanying them will be Claudia Dyer, the Manager of Recreation Programs for the Broken Arrow Parks & Recreation Department. All expenses are paid by the Hershey Foods Corporation.

The Hershey Youth Program, founded in 1975 by Dr. Donald P. Cohen in Charleston, W.Va., has grown from a local playground

event in one community to one of the largest youth sports programs of its kind in North America. The program is designed to encourage physical fitness among youth and emphasize sportsmanship. "The goal of the *Hershey's Track & Field Youth Program* is to teach children to be the best they can be. If we accomplish this goal, then the program is a success," said Rafer Johnson, 1960 Olympic Decathlon Gold Medalist and spokesperson for the program.

Hershey Foods Corporation provides national funding for the Hershey Youth Program. Sponsors include the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the National Association for Sport & Physical Education (NASPE), the President's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports, and Athletics Canada.

Broken Arrow hosted a qualifying meet for the first time last year and again this spring. At the State Meet in Norman, Dziadula also finished second in the 50 meters and 100 meters. Her winning distance in the softball throw was 115-feet.

Johnson won the 1600 with a time of 5:15.82, about five seconds better than the second-place finisher. He was also third in the 800 meters.

Other Broken Arrowans who placed in the State Meet were Jordan Phelps, Kyle Nitz, Samuel Greenleaf, Daniel Archer, Kevin McLean, Annie Archer, Braden McCready, Jim Bui, and Misty Wells.

Tons of Dirt Being Moved on Hills

Despite many more than the normal days of rain for this time of the year, work continues ahead of schedule on the Stonewood Hills Development area where the new Bass Pro Shop will be located.

A key to the development is the extension of Albany (61st Street) from Elm, winding around the lower part of the hill and on east to Lynn Lane. This project was planned long before any contacts with Bass Pro officials. There will also be a widening of Albany from the bridge over the BA Expressway to Elm Place and the entrance to that development area, including the drive to First Baptist Church. Elm Place will be extended from just north of Albany to Omaha (51st).

One of the keys to the start of work by Bass Pro, as well as other development by Phil Roland and his companies, is the reshaping of the area to make room for roads, building pads, and even a large lake and waterfall.

July Proclaimed 'Parks & Recreation Month'

The timing seems perfect for a proclamation by Mayor Richard Carter that July is "Parks & Recreation Month" in Broken Arrow.

Starting this month there will be major baseball and softball tournaments in the city, going through early August. In addition, there are City-sponsored programs in swimming, volleyball, tennis and other sports. Basketball tournaments are being held regularly at the Community Center in Central Park.

Making this an even bigger July than usual will be the opening of the new Youth Center at Nienhuis Park. Claudia Dyer, the City's Manager of Recreation Programs, is moving her office to that facility, just east of Lynn Lane between Omaha and Albany. Foosball and ping-pong tables have been ordered for the building, she said.

Scott Esmond is the Director of Parks & Recreation in Broken Arrow.

The Learn to Swim program this year has soared to 930 participants with one more two-week session left. Dyer reported that Chris Mason has been promoted from Head Lifeguard to Pool Manager.

Broken Arrow Youth Baseball will be hosting the Super Series tournament for National, American and Minor 10-year-olds at Indian Springs Sports Complex, July 10-18. The organization will also be hosting the CABA World Series for 8 to 13-year olds and 14-15 House Tournaments July 18-14 and the CABA 11-Under and 13-Under Quality and Ultimate World Series July 25 to Aug. 1.

Broken Arrow Girls Fastpitch Softball will be hosting several USSSA World Qualifiers July 16-18 and the Metro Girls 14-Under July 21-25, then the American Fastpitch Association Girls 12-Under National Tournament July 27 through Aug. 1. All of those will be at the Arrowhead Park Softball Complex.

In his proclamation at the July 6 City Council meeting, Mayor Carter pointed out: "Parks, playgrounds, ball fields, nature trails, open spaces, community and cultural centers and historic sites make a community attractive and desirable places to live, work, play and to visit to contribute to our ongoing economic vitality."

He also said, "Parks and recreation touches the lives of individuals, families, groups and the entire community, which positively impacts upon the social, economic, health and environmental quality of our community."

Police Department Awarded Grant

The Broken Arrow Police Department has been awarded a LLEBG grant in the amount of \$10,949, plus a matching City fund of \$1,217, reports Police Chief Todd Wuestewald.

The \$12,166 "is smaller than previous grants due to Department of Justice funding for this being cut," said Wuestewald. He said the funds can be used for technology, training, bike unit overtime, etc.

Wuestewald also reported that a booth for the BAPD at the annual conference of the National Sheriff's Association in Seattle drew a great deal of interest in an article by the Chief and Detective Gayla Adcock on the city's war against meth labs. A big part of that program has been working with local businesses in identifying ingredients for meth and contacting police when those ingredients are purchased in large quantities.